

Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10

CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01

OIC-02 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /113 W
----- 092863

O R 062010Z FEB 76

FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8019
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 0888

FOR AMBASSADOR SILBERMAN FROM PERSONS.

DEPT PASS LABOR FOR SEGALL AND AVERY.

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ILO, PORG

SUBJ: MISSION OF PRESIDENTIAL ENVOY ON ILO: WORKING PARTY ON
STRUCTURE

REF: A. ROME 2052, B. GENEVA 735, C. STATE 27338, D. GENEVA
800

1. WHAT IS HAPPENING IN GENEVA IS ENTIRELY CONSISTENT WITH SPECIAL
ENVOY'S POSITION DESCRIBED IN REF A.

2. REACTION EXPRESSED IN REF C. TO REF B. REFLECTS COMPLETE
INCOMPREHENSION BY DEPARTMENT OF REF B. REF B. DID NOT PROPOSE ANY
REPEAT ANY CHANGE IN ILO, MUCH LESS A SIGNIFICANT CHANGE AS
ASSERTED BY REF C. REF B. DID NOT RPT NOT PROPOSE ANY AMEND-
MENT TO THE CONSTITUTION. IT DID NOT PROPOSE THE ESTABLISHMENT
OF ANY REGIONS. IT DID NOT PROPOSE THE DEFINITION OF REGIONS.
IT DID NOT PROPOSE A REGIONAL OR OTHER GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIVUTION
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OF GOVERNMENT SEATS IN THE GOVERNING BODY, AND IT DID NOT PROPOSE

TO ELIMINATE OR OTHERWISE CHANGE THE TEN STATES OF CHIEF INDUSTRIAL IMPORTANCE.

3. THE OBJECTIVE OF REF B WAS TO GET THOSE PRESSING FOR AND WILLING TO ACCEPT THE NAMING OF REGIONS AND THE DETERMINATION OF A FORMULA FOR THE ALLOCATION OF SEATS AMONG THEM TO GET OFF THAT KICK. A PROBLEM THEY WERE TRYING TO SOLVE WAS TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF STATES OF CHIEF INDUSTRIAL IMPORTANCE AND TO ASSURE THAT WITHIN THAT LARGER NUMBER AT LEAST THE MOST INDUSTRIALIZED STATE OF EACH REGION WOULD HAVE A NON-ELECTIVE SEAT. THIS PLOY IN THE BELIEF THAT PRESSURE FOR THE ELIMINATION OF THE STATE OF CHIEF INDUSTRIAL IMPORTANCE BY THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES WOULD BE DECREASED IF REGIONS EXCLUDED FROM MEMBERSHIP AMONG THE STATES OF CHIEF INDUSTRIAL IMPORTANCE WERE INCLUDED IN THAT CATEGORY.

4. THE IDEA BEHIND REF B IS SIMPLE, THOUGH -- IN ORDER TO AVOID THE NAMING AND DEFINITION OF REGIONS AND THE ALLOCATION OF ALL GOVERNMENT SEATS AMONG THOSE REGIONS ACCORDING TO A FIXED FORMULA -- IT IS CUMBERSOME. IT IS TO DEVISE A PRECEDURE THROUGH WHICH ILO REGIONAL CONFERENCES (FOR WHICH THE CONSTITUTION PRESENTLY PROVIDES AND WHICH HAVE BEEN HELD FOR SEVERAL DECADES) COULD ADOPT A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE GOVERNMENT ELECTORAL COLLEGE OF THE ILO CONFERENCE (ALSO CURRENTLY PROVIDED FOR IN THE CONSITUTION) TO AUTOMATICALLY ELECT THE MOST INDUSTRIALIZED STATE OF THOSE INVITED BY THE GOVERNING BODY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE REGIONAL CONFERENCE.

5. THIS WOULD NOT RPT NOT ENTAIL ANY DEFINITION OF ILO REGIONS. REGIONAL CONFERENCES WHICH ARE HELD ARE THE AFRICAN, ASIAN, AMERICAN STATES, AND EUROPEAN REGIONAL CONFERENCES. THESE FOUR REGIONAL CONFERENCES ARE NEITHER MENTIONED BY NAME NOR ARE THE GEOGRAPHIC BOUNDARIES OF THE STATES ATTENDING THEM DRAWN IN ANY CONSTITUTIONAL OR STANDING ORDERS DOCUMENTATION OF THE ILO. THESE CONFERENCES ARE CONVENED BY THE GOVERNING BODY AND ATTENDED BY MEMBER STATES SO INVITED BY THE GOVERNING BODY IN CONNECTION WITH EACH SEPARATE CONVOCATION. THE STATES INVITED BY THE GOVERNING BODY WILL VARY WITH EACH CONVOCATION OF EACH OF THE FOUR REGIONAL CONFERENCES NOTED ABOVE. SOME STATES ARE INVITED TO MORE THAN ONE REGIONAL

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CONFERENCE (E.G. THE U.S. IS INVITED TO BOTH THE AMERICAN STATES AND THE ASIAN REGIONAL CONFERENCES). SOME STATES ARE INVITED TO NO REGIONAL CONFERENCE (E.G. SOME STATES OF THE MIDDLE EAST). THUS WHILE THE ILO CONSTITUTION (ARTICLE 38) PROVIDES THAT THE ILO MAY CONVENE SUCH REGIONAL CONFERENCES AS MAY BE DESIRABLE TO PROMOTE THE AIMS AND PURPOSES OF THE ORGANIZATION, IT DOES NOT NAME THE REGIONS NOR DEFINE THEIR BOUNDARIES. HENCE THE USE OF THOSE REGIONAL CONFERENCES IN A PROCEDURE WHEREBY

A RESOLUTION OF THAT CONFERENCE WOULD BE COMMUNICATED TO THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE THAT THE MOST INDUSTRIALIZED STATE AMONG THOSE PARTICIPATING IN THE CONFERENCE BE AUTOMATICALLY ELECTED REPEAT ELECTED TO THE GOVERNING BODY WHEN THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE NEXT MEETS WOULD INVOLVE NONE OF THE REGIONALIZATION ISSUES OR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A FORMULA FOR THE REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF GOVERNMENT SEATS AMONG THE REGIONS WHICH THE UNITED STATES IS DETERMINED TO AVOID.

6. THIS, THEREFORE, WAS A PROCEDURAL GIMMICK TO TRY, WITHOUT ELIMINATING OR CHANGING THE TEN STATES OF CHIEF INDUSTRIAL IMPORTANCE, AND WITHOUT ESTABLISHING REGIONS AND THEIR BOUNDARIES, TO UTILIZE PRESENT AND LONG-STANDING MACHINERY TO ACHIEVE AN ELECTIVE STATUS OF CONTINUITY SIMILAR TO THE TEN STATES OF CHIEF INDUSTRIAL IMPORTANCE FOR THOSE AREAS OF THE THIRD WORLD WHICH ARE NOT REPRESENTED AMONG THE TEN STATES.

7. INSTEAD THE ISSUE OF NON-ELECTIVE SEATS PER SE WAS REINTRODUCED BY THE THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES. THEREFORE, REF B. WAS NO LONGER RELEVANT AND HAS BEEN DROPPED BY USDEL AS REPORTED IN REF D.

8. PRESENT STATUS OF GENEVA NEGOTIATIONS ON THE TEN STATES IS AN APPARENT STALEMATE BETWEEN THE POSITION OF PRINCIPLE AGAINST THE CONTINUOUS MEMBERSHIP OF A CERTAIN CATEGORY OF STATES (THE TEN STATES OF CHIEF INDUSTRIAL IMPORTANCE) TO WHICH THE THIRD WORLD GROUP HAS REVERTED, AND THE INSISTANCE OF THE INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES ON THE PRINCIPLE THAT THOSE STATES (THE TEN STATES) MOST RESPONSIBLE FOR THE WORK OF THE ILO SHOULD HAVE ASSURED CONTINUOUS MEMBERSHIP ON THE GOVERNMENT BENCHES OF THE GOVERNING BODY.
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